

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                             |   |                                |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| In re application of:       | § |                                |
| Robert Lance Cook et al.    | § | Examiner: To Be Assigned       |
|                             | § |                                |
| Serial No.: N/A             | § |                                |
|                             | § |                                |
| Division of S/N: 09/512,895 | § |                                |
|                             | § | Attorney Docket No. 25791.85   |
| Filed: Herewith             | § |                                |
|                             | § |                                |
| For: A METHOD OF COUPLING A | § | Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned |
| TUBULAR MEMBER TO A         | § |                                |
| PREEXISTING STRUCTURE       | § |                                |
|                             | § |                                |

BOX NON FEE AMENDMENT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above entitled patent application as follows:

**In The Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1, 3, 4, 6-14, and 16.

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## Remarks

Claims 1-90 were pending.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-14, and 16 have been canceled.

### **The Restriction Requirement In The Parent Application S/N 09/512,895:**

The examiner required restriction in the parent application, S/N 09/512,895, to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claim 1.
- II. Claims 3 and 16.
- III. Claim 4.
- IV. Claims 2, 5, and 15.
- V. Claims 6, 13, and 14.
- VI. Claim 8.
- VII. Claim 10.
- VIII. Claim 9.
- IX. Claim 11.
- X. Claim 7.
- XI. Claim 12.

In response to the restriction requirement, in the parent application, S/N 09/512,895, the Applicant elected the invention of Group I - claim 1.

As a result, the non-elected inventions of group II - claims 3 and 16; group III - claim 4; group IV - claims 2, 5, and 15; group V - claims 6, 13, and 14; group VI - claim 8; group VII - claim 10; group VIII - claim 9; group IX - claim 11; group X - claim 7; and group XI - claim 12 were canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, to be pursued in corresponding divisional applications.

**Claims 2, 5, 15 and 17- 90 of The Present Application:**

The present application is a division of the parent application, serial number 09/512,895. Claims 2, 5, 15 and 17- 90 of the present application are generally directed to the invention of Group IV.

Unless stated otherwise, none of the amendments to the present application were made for reasons substantially related to the statutory requirements for patentability.

Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No.08-1394 of Haynes and Boone, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/7/2002

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